



OFFICIAL MATCH PROGRAM
JUNE 9, 1979 Vol. 2, No. 6

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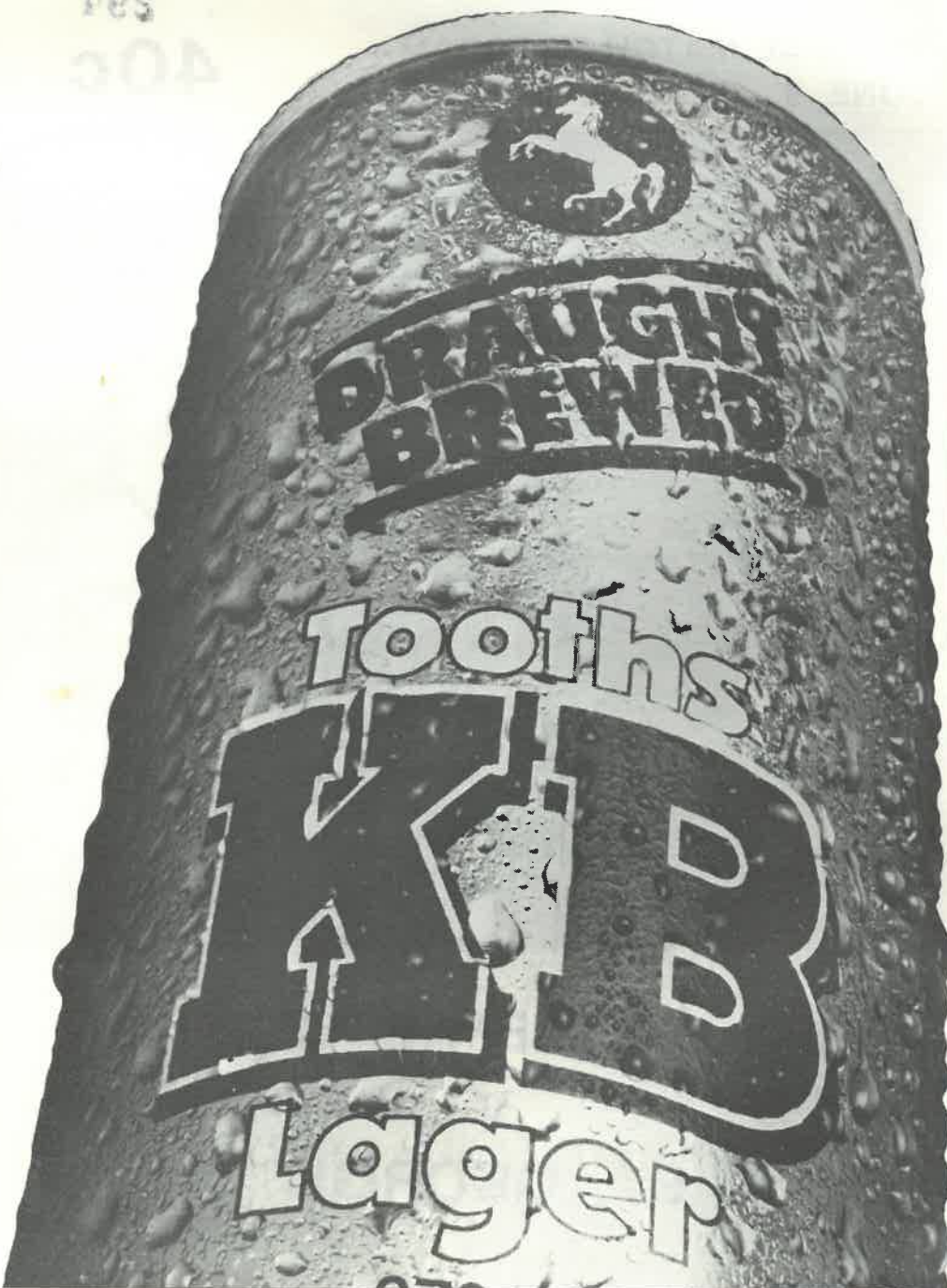


NEWCASTLE KB UNITED
V
ST. GEORGE

Have a Cold Gold

883

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PROGRAM:

Jack Mathews, Alan Tredinnick (editors), Jim Smith (advertising) — (Phone 2 0471).

COVER PIC: Arno Bertogna shows his defensive qualities against Norwich City.

(PIC: Newcastle Herald)

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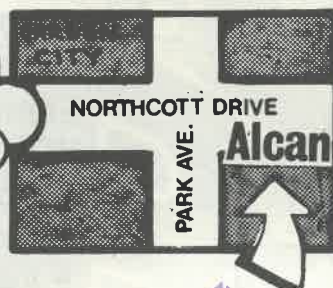
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Newcastle KB United



V St. George

St. George is the enigma of the Philips Soccer League. Its Hungarian base, the Budapest in St. George Budapest, gives it a European flavour. Yet it is more Australian than most of its counterparts in the League.

Its playing staff includes the O'Shea family of John, Robert and Michael, Peter Katholos, Peter Terry, Paul Kay and Brendan Grosse, all of them Australian youngsters. Then there is Neville Morgan the Australian giant and George Harris both products of the St. George juniors. There are more Australians on the staff than any other nationality. In fact the only player with any ties at all with Hungary is Doug Utjesenovic. From the British Isles come Roy Cotton, Peter Hensman and Phil O'Connor.

After years of glory St. George has fallen on hard times in the past two seasons. They just have not attained the power and precision they had in their heyday.

Called back in an emergency last season, Uncle Joe Vlasits was able to restore some semblance of dignity towards the end of the competition. But between seasons the club did some backsliding and several disastrous results prompted another change of coaches so that now Raoul Blanco has taken over the reins. His success has been remarkable in the short time he has been with the club. St. George are now semi-finalists in the Philips Cup. Their opponents for the semi? None other than Newcastle KB United!

So this match is virtually a dress rehearsal for the Cup semi-final. In a way that makes a home win for Newcastle United tremendously

important. In another sense it gives us two bites of the cherry.

It is unfortunate for our team that we meet the Dragons at a time when their fortunes are being restored. It might have been to our advantage to have met them a few weeks ago when we were up and they were down. But take consolation from the fact that it will provide us with a finer game.

St. George has only one probable Soccerroo, Phil O'Connor whose skills as a left winger were first displayed in Newcastle during a State Cup match against Adamstown back in 1976. He has the ability to turn a defender inside out. He loves to take on a fullback. On his day he can be devastating.

We can expect to see former Soccerroo, Doug Utjesenovic, playing in the central defence with Brendan Grosse. Doug used to be the finest right back in Australia and he has done yeoman service with St. George. His personal dedication to fitness and skill are an object lesson to youngsters coming into the game.

Despite its lowly position on the points table St. George commands respect from any opponent. They have the distinction of being the only combination ever to have won a Cup match against Brisbane City. That alone entitles them to some consideration. Their proud history of success at the highest levels of football in Australia is an added laurel.

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Alan Vest

FROM THE TUNNEL

Since our last home league game when we lost 1-0 to Sydney City and perhaps deserved better, we've won two cup games 3-0 against Sydney Olympic and that great win 2-1 against Sydney City and then gone down 2-1 at Marconi on Sunday. The lads got their reward for tremendous efforts in the cup, but the sad facts are that in the last two league games against perhaps the best two teams in the country, we've done enough to get results and have played with tremendous spirit. It's a terrible let down for players when they do put so much effort in and get no reward. There's no doubt about it though if we can play as well for the rest of the season, we'll be up there at the end.

After our first lapses against Canberra and Brisbane Lions its been heartening to see players back to their best. Peter Tredinnick has come back with a bang with two tremendous performances. John Sneddon has put a lot of fight into the lads and Ken Boden has been electrifying with his work rate. In fact apart from sticking it in the net things look good, we're hoping our new signing Kevin Keelan can remedy things in that department.

Graham Heys had to have stitches in a shin injury, and had to be replaced at half time. He was wearing pads and a good tip here for young players, he'd probably have broken his leg if he'd been without them.

Well it's an important game for us today against a St. George team that had a disastrous start to the season, but under new coach Rael Blanco have been playing with renewed enthusiasm and have come in with some good results in recent weeks. Don't be fooled by their lowly position, as they have some very talented players and I have no doubt it will be a very hard game today.

Alan Vest travels by Holden courtesy of McLEOD, KELSO and LEE



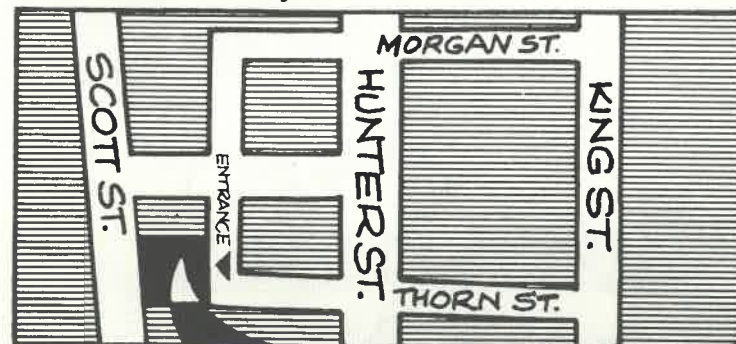
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PLAYER PROFILE



FULL NAME:
James Preston.

PREFERRED NAME:
Jim.

PRESENT ADDRESS:
11 Harwill Court,
New Lambton,
Newcastle.

DATE OF BIRTH:
10-12-56.

PLACE OF BIRTH:
Glasgow.

HEIGHT:
6 ft.

WEIGHT:
12st. 10lbs.

SCHOOL/COLLEGE:
St. Gregory's.

YOUTH SOCCER:
Celtic amateurs, Clyde Boys Club, Glasgow Schools Select. Trials at Clydebank (Scottish Premier League Side).

SENIOR CAREERS & PERFORMANCES:
Queens Park 1 year, Goalkeeper. Played in all 30 of this years First Team games.

REPRESENTATIVE HONOURS:
Scottish Amateur Select, Glasgow Schools Select, Goalkeeper.

MARITAL STATUS:
Single.

PERMANENT No:
20.

P.S.L. REGISTRATION No:
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TRED LIGHTLY

IRONNIES

RONNY B. Asked what he thought of soccer's situation in Australia, Rudi Gutendorf replied, "I could not think of a better place for it."

ronnie c. The English F.A. today announced a new award called "Soccer Magic". The inaugural award was won hands down by Chelsea. Noy only did they perform the miracle of beating Liverpool at Anfield three nothing. They topped off that performance by disappearing into second division.

RONNY B. The A.M.A. has just completed a study entitled "Sex and the Footballer". It is a record of research into whether players should have sex immediately before or immediately after a match. Its next project is titled, "Is ten minutes long enough at half time?"

ronnie c. An Irish detective, assigned to do a story on graft and corruption in football and other sports, has come up with a tennis racket.

RONNY B. Health authorities have warned footballers to be extremely careful when flying between Sydney and Canberra. All planes on the route have been grounded.

ronnie c. A leading soccer magazine today ran a correction of a misprint in one of its recent editions. The misprint — "the pen is mightier than the word" the decided was ludicrous. It should have read, "The penis is mightier than the sword."

RONNY B. Interviewed after a six nothing drubbing a member of the losing Irish soccer team claimed, "We were unlucky. If we hadn't changed ends at half time we would have had a three all draw."

ronnie c. After drifting for a week in an open boat two shipwrecked footballers were rescued today by a tramp steamer. "We'll soon have you back on dry land," said the skipper. "No, thanks," said the lads, "We'd sooner get back to England."

RONNY B. When the Irish F.A. sent a circular to its clubs condemning acts of overt sexual behaviour at some matches, one Irish club sacked its public relations officer.

ronnie c. Interviewed in hospital today a prominent Philips League footballer was asked, "When did you know your leg was broken?" He replied with no hesitation, "As soon as I saw Johnny Sneddon coming in to tackle me."

RONNY B. In an effort to get his team out of the doldrums a leading soccer coach this Wednesday drilled his side against eleven dustbins placed strategically round the park. The dustbins won 2-1.

RONNY B. The Irish F.A. today announced plans to build a multi-million soccer stadium for top international matches. The plans show no exits and no fire escapes. Somebody told them these things are on the way out.

ronnie c. The match between Canberra City and Footscray was delayed for twenty minutes after officials discovered that a herd of cattle had wandered onto the pitch overnight. Groundsmen worked frantically to clean up so the match could get under way. The announcer paid tribute to them for their efforts, and dur-

ing the game a linesman and two players got a pat on the back.

RONNY B. Joe Jordan, regarded as one of the best headers in the game, may change clubs again shortly. He says his future is up in the air.

ronnie c. A prominent Irish sweeper today announced his retirement from football. He told reporters he was sick of goalkeepers talking behind his back.

RONNY B. In a freak accident last Saturday a footballer who had climbed onto the roof of the stand to retrieve the match ball fell ten metres onto the muddy pitch. He was injured only slightly but reporters say they cannot remember any previous player making such a big impression.

ronnie c. When a top Irish club informed their manager they would be buying players on a large scale he hired a weighbridge for a week.

* * * *

DAFFYNITONS

LOCAL TALENT: The girls who sit on the home side of the grandstand.

IMPORTED TALENT: The girls who come with the visiting side.

MANAGER: The only one who can manage to keep his eyes off both the local and imported talent.

MASSAGE: The masseur's treatment that is not meant to rub you the wrong way.

MASSEUR: The sound the crowd makes when a shot just misses the target.

PHYSIO: The bubble in a soft drink bottle.

CHIROPRACTOR: Has his practice in Egypt.

MAGIC WATER: So named for the way it disappears on a hot day.

* * * *

There was the manager who filled his side with religious players. He had a Jewish sweeper because he would give nothing away at the back. He came unstuck with his Catholic winger who took the ball down the line and crossed himself.

* * * *

Did you hear about the Rangers fan who went to the Celtic end of the ground for laughs? He ended up in stitches.

* * * *

A fellow took his dog into a pub. When the football scores came over the radio Chelsea had lost again. The dog went berserk.

"What's the matter with your dog?" asked a drinker.

"He's a Chelsea supporter. He can't take it when they get beaten."

"What does he do when they win?"

"I don't know. I've only had him for six months."

* * * *

When Col Bennett, Lions' huge defender, had an audience with the Pope he noticed all the religious statues were wearing shin guards.

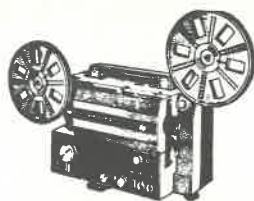
* * * *

When Bill Summerscales phoned his wife to tell her he was coming home with a broken leg she asked him whose it was.

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LUBANSKI — THE YOUNGEST INTERNATIONAL

There have been and still are some remarkable instances of players in many parts of the Soccer world — there are now 143 countries in it — who reached international status at a comparatively early age. But few can outdo, or even parallel, that of Włodzisław Lubanski, of Poland and the Gornik Zabrze Club.

When Lubanski won an Olympic Games gold medal as a member of Poland's team which won the tournament at Munich in 1972 he had just completed his 60th international appearance — and he had scored 39 goals. But he had yet to have his 25th birthday.

But there was more, much more, to it than that. He won his first international cap against Norway in September, 1963 — and he was only SIXTEEN!

Surely he is the youngest player ever to be selected to represent his country in a full international match.

Lubanski, a scheming, skilful inside-forward in the days when there was such a position on the field, was rated as Poland's finest post-war player.

He came from Sosnice in the Silesian coalfields. He played for GKS Gliwice, a boys' team which was a nursery for the Gornik Zabrze when he was 11. He was a member of Poland's team in the UEFA Youth Champion-

ship when still to reach his 14th year.

The Gornik Zabrze promoted him from the GES Gliwice side when he was 16. He almost immediately gained a regular place in the club's First Division team and five months later, was in Poland's team.

In his 21st year Lubanski had accomplished more, indeed much more, than most players could hope to achieve in a lifetime. He was the top goal-scorer in the national competition in 1966 and 1967. He had made 20 appearances in Poland's international team and had scored 12 goals for his country, although he had missed two seasons because of a heart complaint.

Classified as a student, Lubanski is a Polish Master of Sport. He played for Poland in a few of its matches in the last World Cup tournament in Argentina.

He topped the National League's goal-scoring list again in 1968 and 1969 and helped his club win both League and Cup competitions in 1972.

Few internationals have started their service with their country's teams at so tender an age and continued it for so long as has Lubanski.

— Jack Mathews

CHIPS AND CROSSES

The children of Glendon Crescent Special School were the guests of Newcastle United at its cup tie with Sydney City. The youngsters spent an afternoon they will never forget. They received special attention from the administrators, extra special attention from the players themselves and a heartwarming treat from an unknown spectator behind them. Only another child could possibly appreciate the thrill it gave those children. For good measure the game ran into extra time and the kids went home 'in the dark'.

* * * *

Craig Johnston turns nineteen next month. In a recent letter he mentioned casually that he had just bought a house in Middlesbrough and was looking forward to entertaining some of his Australian friends. For a boy who went to England with nothing except talent and a burning desire to succeed in football he hasn't done too badly.

* * * *

There is a rumour circulating that proprietors of the big bus companies in Newcastle start to drool when the football season gets under way and are positively salivating whenever United plays a match in Sydney. They know that they won't have a single bus lying idle on those particular weekends. Not less than ten buses were booked up for the game against Marconi at Fairfield.

* * * *

Did Brian Clough plan it that way or was it an accident? His million pound signing, Trevor Francis, scored the winning goal in the final of the European Cup against Malmo. It wasn't just the winning goal but the only goal. Clough, had used Francis only sparingly until recently. It was not until that final that Francis made his debut in the Cup. Clough perhaps considered that a win in the cup final would amply repay the club for their huge outlay. The same gentleman spent the time before the final relaxing with his family at a holiday resort. Is that sang froid or is it?

* * * *

The directors of Newcastle United don't leave much to chance. The checklist of jobs to be completed for every home fixture runs into four foolscap pages. The checklist for away matches is only three foolscap pages. For the away matches the host club has to do that extra foolscap page of worrying.

* * * *

Did you realise that there were eight Australian born players in the squad which thrashed Norwich City on Sunday, 27th May, in Sydney? All right, Norwich did have some excuses but no English First Division club has ever been beaten by a state side to the tune of 4-1. The win was the first of real significance for Australia's new national coach, Rudi Gutendorf, and it's not bad for starters.

* * * *

Arno Bertogna, United's new defensive midfielder, played in Hobart when the national Youth Championships were held there in 1975. By coincidence so did Brett Cowburn, Neal Endacott and Peter Tredinnick. Malcolm McClelland played in the championships of the following year.

* * * *

Ian Seddon's injured tendon is gradually mending. He may be fit to play again shortly. It isn't easy being a footballer and not being able to play. It's rather like being a wheat farmer unable to plant a crop until he gets some rain. There's just nothing he can do about it except wait.

* * * *

Newcastle United broke new ground when it invited members of the media to its home game with Norwich City. The rewards were almost immediate. That Sunday following the match a special supplement appeared in the Sydney Sun-Herald. Who benefited from the exercise? Soccer as a whole and perhaps Sydney in particular. But Newcastle United gets the credit.

* * * *

Alan Cooper tells the story about the quick witted club manager who asked for ten packs of cards when the lights failed in a floodlit game. He dealt the cards out to the spectators five at a time and the lights came on again proving that many hands make light work.

* * * *

This time last season the chief topic of conversation whenever United supporters met was 'own goals'. There were even reports of fans singing "Have an Own Goal, K.B.". The villains of the story are now the heroes and the only goals entering our nets are coming from the feet and heads of our opponents. Not too many of those either by comparison with 1978.

SCORERS

NEWCASTLE
KB UNITED

ST. GEORGE

NEWCASTLE KB UNITED

1. PHIL DANDO
2. PETER WILLIS
3. NEAL ENDACOTT
4. CRAIG MASON
5. BILL SUMMERSCALES
6. ROY DRINKWATER
7. ARNO BERTOONA
8. IAN SEDDON
9. KENNY BODEN
10. GRAHAM HEYS
11. DAVID JONES

MANAGER:

Alan Vest

COLOURS:

Emerald,

cinnamon

and white

or

Red, gold

and black

12. JOE SENKALSKI
14. JOHN SNEDDON
15. COL CURRAN
16. PETER TREDINNICK
17. JIM McBREEN
18. MICHAEL BOOGAARD
19. MALCOLM McCLELLAND
20. JIM PRESTON
21. KEITH HARRIS
22. BRETT COWBURN

REFEREE:

Jim Reeves



LINESMEN:

Rob Davies

Bob Warren

1. MARTIN COE
2. GEORGE HARRIS
3. DOUG UTJESENOVIC
4. PETER TERRY
5. ROBERT O'SHEA
6. BRENDAN GROSSE
7. PETER HENSAN
8. JOHN O'SHEA
9. STEPHAN MATIC
10. ROY COTTON
11. PHIL O'CONNOR

COACH:

Rael Blanco

COLOURS:

Red, green

and

white

12. MICHAEL FRASER
13. MICHAEL O'SHEA
14. EMERY HOLMIK
15. RODOLFO DELLA-PICCA
16. NIGEL GROOME
17. DENIS DUARTE
18. NEVILLE MORGAN
19. MARK BARTON
20. RUDI GNAVI
21. PAUL KAY
22. PETER KATHOLOS

ST. GEORGE

RESULT — NEWCASTLE

ST. GEORGE

A LOSS TO THE GAME IN THE NORTH

The Directors, Management, Players and Supporters of KB United express their sincere thanks and appreciation to Neil Jameson for his invaluable contribution towards the formation of the club, its entry to the Philips Soccer League of Australia and its promotion by way of his articles in the Newcastle Morning Herald, the Northern Soccer News and his efforts as Editor of the KB United programme, regarded as the best in the Philips Soccer League of Australia.

Mr Jameson has accepted a position in journalism in Sydney. He will be greatly missed and all wish him well.

OLD STARS TO SHINE, MEDIA TO MUDDLE

There are two matches of interest listed before today's big game.

others who delighted Soccer followers in their days in the game.

One will be the under 16 grade fixture between South Cardiff and Adamstown, the other the much-awaited clash between the Old Stars and the Media Muddlers.

Word from the Media Muddlers camp leaves no doubt as to the enthusiasm of those who will play. However, the form is yet to be revealed but we are assured it will be worthy of the occasion.

The teams named for the Old Stars and Media Muddlers match include, as far as the Old Stars are concerned, many players who played important parts in the progress of the game at all levels. The Muddlers have helped in other ways.

The 'Silver Fox', NBN's racing expert, is reported as being particularly keen and promises to be as effective as his racing forecasts.

Among them are Ray Baartz, one of Australia's most brilliant players of recent years, Alf ('Artie') Quill, who scored 868 goals in his magnificent career in which he was a key figure in Wallsend teams for 16 seasons.

Another interesting member of the team is 'League' Maughan, NBN sporting commentator and 2HD Sporting Editor, said to be something of a rod in pickle for the Old Stars.

The team is studded with names which bring many memories to followers of the code. There is Bob Cairns, a fine goalkeeper, Ker McLerie, Basil Arratoon, Denis Wright, Jim Sloan, Bob Cameron who came from Leeds United to Adams-town, Peter Dewhurst, Peter Irvine, Dave Coote, Ken Whitmore, Ian Main, Bob Frame — and perhaps one or two

Other members of the side will be David Fordham, Neil Jameson, Alyn Hammonet — who knows his way round a Soccer field — Andrew Kovacs, Paul Rey, Joe Lanzoni, Andy Robertson, Paul Hardy, Ray Waite, Bill Reeves, Peter Davis, Ross Wells, Simon Brambt, Tim Webster and Allan Cooper.

This is a match that should not be missed. It promises a great deal — but of ?

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SUPPORTERS CLUB NEWS

* * * *

KB United became a true cup team with their performance against Sydney City last week.

Unfortunately the Philips Cup has failed till now to attract any special attention from crowds but we are well on the way to changing this attitude.

Nothing can replace the excitement of a cup tie and the first signs of excitement and real cup fever in the Philips Cup showed up on our grandstand during the Sydney City clash. It was a wonderful experience and the atmosphere and celebrations will be talked about by supporters for some time to come.

Some of us are already dreaming of a cup final at the ISC. It would be great, especially if we came out on top.

* * * *

Our supporters club is steadily growing and we have now the names of some VIPs on our books.

After our Lord Mayor became a member we have gained the membership of Mr Booth, Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism, as well as Johnny Warren and officials of Sydney Olympic and Sydney City (they can't beat us, so they've joined us!)

Our latest signing was none other than Mr M. Wilson, the president of Newcastle Rugby League Association. It is pleasing to see Mr Wilson with our club and to see that he supports us in our feeling that there is no place for friction between codes. We should all support every sport which represents Newcastle. So congratulations Mr Wilson and our support will be demonstrated for your code.

For some time we have said that all Newcastle United fans should be members of the supporters club. There are just so many reasons why YOU should be a member that we almost wrote a book about them, but we didn't. However, here are a couple . . . If you were a member of the supporters club —

— YOU could win a coach trip to a Sydney game at every home game. The ticket must be claimed on the day of the draw and the membership cards must be produced.

— YOU could win a 5-day holiday for two to Numea.

— YOU would be a supporter of the finest club in Australia.

* * * *

Basil Arratoon has been a busy man these past few weeks. He has organised the "Old Stars" team which will take the field against a selected eleven from the Media.

The "Old Stars" include such old time greats like Artie Quill and Bob Cairns.

The not-so-old-timers are — R. Frame, R. Baartz, D. Wright, P. Dewhurst, P. Irvine, R. Cameron, J. Sloan, A. Cooper, I. Maine, D. Coote and of course B. Arratoon.

The referee will be R. Roth.

Should be a good match to watch, a bit of nostalgia doesn't hurt anyone.

* * * *



These three are up in the air about something during the KB United — Norwich City match at the International Sports Centre — probably about to have a ball! From left, Peter Willis, of the home team, is obviously intent on the task in hand — to nod the ball away from the Norwich City attacker, Keith Robson. Between their heads can be seen that of KB United player, Arno Bertogna. Looking on is Kevin Reeves, of Norwich City. (PIC: Newcastle Herald)



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Those who missed securing a programme for the home match against West Adelaide on Saturday, June 23, at the International Sports Centre will forfeit the opportunity of winning a free trip to Brisbane on July 15 to watch KB United play Brisbane City.

Each programme sold on June 23 will contain a Lucky Number. The person holding it will gain a single TAA air flight to Brisbane for the match.

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Among the many special guests at the KB United — West Adelaide match at the International Sports Centre on June 23 will be the Newcastle entrants in the Miss Australia Quest — a galaxy of personality and charm.

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Those taking part in the March Past during half-time in the main match today are members of the teams to represent the Newcastle and Macquarie Junior Soccer Associations in the forthcoming State Championships. They will wear the playing strips of their associations.

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This is your last chance to get your entry in for the Newcastle United Golden Goal draw for the month of May. So search your memory, fill in the coupon and post it in time for the closing date of July 1.

I think the May Golden Goal was scored by

(players name)

on (date of match)

against (name of opposing club)

.

Entrant's Name

Address

.

Entrants may submit as many entries as desired but all must be on a program coupon. The first entry drawn which agrees with the judging decision of the panel of David Fordham, Ray Baartz and Neil Jameson will win a gold note worth \$50 from F. S. and B. Scorer, the Newcastle Bullion dealers who donated the \$1100 Golden Goal trophy. Post all entries to PO Box 5027A, Newcastle West.

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PRESTON	7.50
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COWBURN	7.10
BERTOONA	7.00
HEYS	6.91
WILLIS	6.87
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TREDINNICK	6.27
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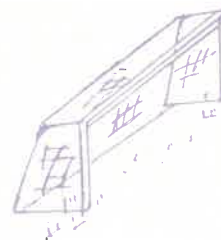
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WESTON, A CLUB WITH MUCH, RICH HISTORY

by Jack Mathews

As with so many Soccer clubs in the North the renowned Weston Club was formed because of the interest, talents and abilities of miners who came from the North of England.

It, therefore, was little more than automatic that the club decided to adopt the playing strip of the famed Newcastle United from St James Park.

There were a number of teams in the district before the present Weston Club was formed in 1910, the top players in the area being among the first members. And the talent available was plentiful since Soccer had been played in the region for many years with such clubs as East Greta – the first club formed on the South Maitland coalfields – Greta Bluebells, Greta, Heddon Greta Rooks, Kurri Kurri Royals, Pelaw Main Violets.

The club played its matches on the noted Homestead Ground which it occupied for many years. The first two intercity matches between the North and South conducted by the State League in 1928 were played on the ground, the South winning both, two goals to one.

It was a football playing pitch of much history and known, far and wide, as a ground on which visiting teams found it difficult to win points since Weston teams were always hard to beat at the Homestead, backed as they were by extremely loyal and particularly vocal supporters. But then, Weston was a team difficult to defeat at any time and on any ground.

Weston's greatest days were, perhaps, in the 1930's although its team in the immediate years after World War I were also noted and feared combinations. The 1918 side was the only South Maitland Coalfield's XI to win the much coveted Gardiner Cup. Indeed, the only other team from the area to play in the Cup final, of which there were 42, was Cessnock, beaten by two goals to nil by Adamstown in 1925.

However, the great teams of the 1930's carried almost all before them – and those were days of considerable intercity rivalry with competition being extremely fierce. There were no weak teams in the State League competitions in the 30's – only good ones with some just the little better.

Weston served notice of approaching greatness when it reached the final of the State Cup in 1928 although defeated, two-nil, by Aberdare at Cessnock. And Aberdare was a team of considerable strength in those days, the line-up in the Cup final being: H. McKissock; T. Hill, A. ('Ducky') Henwood; T. Shakespeare, W. Sterrit, J. B. ('Digger') Evans; Nock Brennan, J. McKay, B. McLearn, A. Thompson, J. Drinkwater.

But in the years between 1930 and 1940 Weston was almost supreme. It was a team of few changes. From 1928 to 1939 Weston played in six State Cup and State League Cup finals, winning four times. And, in the 13 seasons, it used only 22 players in Cup finals.

The great goalkeeper, Jim McNabb who was something of a football phenomenon, Tom ('Pincher') Harris, Jim ('Skeeta') Wilkinson and Jim Kemp each played in the five finals of the 30's. Jack Drinkwater, the second of that name to shine in Soccer, Tom Shakespeare, Ern Kemp and Jack Laddon each played in four while Jack McCroarey was in three finals, Jim Harden and Aub Teece in two. Others who figured in final teams were Roy Paddock, Alex Cameron, Roy Simons, Jim Williams, Aub Perris, Bill Whitelaw, Charlie Thompson, Bill Victor, H. ('Dixie') Biggers, Rex Stevenson and Jackie Marsden.

Players from that impressive line-up of the 30's won the State Cup in 1932 by defeating Adamstown, eight-one, at Wallsend; in 1934, again against Adamstown, Weston won by five goals to one; in 1936 the winning score was three-one in the final against Metters at Clyde Oval; in 1939 Weston and Goodyear played a two-all draw in the final at Arlinton Oval and Weston won the replay, three-one, at Wallsend.

Weston was defeated in the 1937 final, three-two, by Wallsend at Hobart Park.

In between the Cup successes, Weston won the State League premierships in 1931 and 1936.

The club was not a newcomer to Cup success for it had won the Stevenson Cup, donated by Mr J. ('Jockey') Stevenson, who became a noted Kurri Kurri and Mayfield businessman, in 1922 and then for seven successive seasons between 1932 and 1938. It won the trophy again in 1941.

AS I RECALL Cont.

That was not the end of the story of the club's successes in premiership and cup competitions for, in recent years, the club's proud record has been greatly boosted in most spectacular manner by the Weston Bears.

Nevertheless, the victory that Weston's diehard supporters of other years savoured most was that gained 71 years ago on the Lilyfield ground, now Harold Park where the dogs and trotters race. It was there that Weston defeated Balmain Kiaro, one goal to nil, in the final of the Gardiner Cup. And what a grand team Weston fielded. It was: Bob Austin; Bill Lambert, Jack Henry; Dick Austin, Harry Hollingshead, Jack Duxfield; Bill Beverley, Len Pugh, Jack Avis, Andy McNaughton, Jim Bellamy.

Jack Duxfield, who scored the goal which counted was, not so many months ago, reported as hale and hearty back in his birthplace in County Durham.

Weston has never lacked highly capable administrators. None gave the club greater service as player and administrator than did the late Jack Avis – and his association with it lasted for more than 60 years. He was a 'Dead-eye Dick' as a centre-forward, scoring 201 goals in 276 matches for the club. He was its secretary for 14 years, treasurer for seven, a selector and a member of its committee. His father, George, had been the club's president for a term and his son, Jack Avis junior, was the club's secretary for seven years. The family's association with the club goes back for 80 years.

Jack Avis captained a N.S.W. team against China at Sydney Cricket Ground in 1925. On the same day his clubmate, 'Poker' Creighton, captained a N.S.W. second team against Queensland. It is a unique happening in Australian Soccer that two players from the same club should captain State teams on the same day.

Another great Weston Club administrator was the evergreen Bill Beaney, who now lives in England but yearns for Weston. He was associated with Weston Club for more than 50 years.

He was secretary of the first N.S.W. State League when it was formed in 1928 and it's president in 1934. He was an Australian selector for eight years and secretary of the Weston Club from 1921 to 1927.

In more recent years Mr Alan Lamb

had a long and fruitful term as a club administrator, the club gaining many notable successes while he was its president. He became president of the Northern N.S.W. Soccer Federation, a position he held when he moved to another State.

Two of Weston's greatest players died in tragic circumstances. The brilliant Bill Lambert, who captained the club team and N.S.W. was killed in a mine disaster. The ball used in the 1918 Gardiner Cup final was buried with him. Peter Coppick, held to be the near-perfect wing half-back, was killed when struck by lightning while sheltering in the dressing shed at the Homestead during a heavy thunderstorm.

Another great player from the Weston ranks was Jackie Mannion who, in 1928, headed all the goal-scorers in N.S.W.

Jim ('Skeeta') Wilkinson, one of the club's many internationals, played most of his Soccer with Weston, turning out for Mayfield United and Kurri Kurri towards the end of his remarkable career. He has made more appearances – 552 – than any other player in Australian senior grade football. He turned out for Weston 461 times and scored, from the right wing, 167 goals. He played for Australia 16 times and scored 16 goals for it.

Small in build 'Skeeta', who weighed less than nine stone, played for 20 seasons in the top grade. He was a player for the big occasion and was undoubtedly one of the most brilliant players Australian Soccer has had.

Another great Weston stalwart was Jim McNabb, the doyen of Australian goalkeepers. He played for N.S.W. as a full-back but a serious leg injury turned him into a goalkeeper. And what a great one he was!

Among the internationals from the Weston Club were Bob Austin, 'Poker' Creighton, Jackie Gilmour, Tom Harris, Jim Harden, Jackie Mannion, Jack McCroarey, Jim McNabb, Ton Oliver and Jim Wilkinson – a notable band indeed.

The Weston Club continues in strength. It has a proud record in Australian Soccer, has produced many great international, State and Northern players, won many of the game's honours and been blessed with topline administrators.

It is a club of great tradition and has played a magnificent part in the advancement of the code, not only in the North but in Australia.

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Well balanced and obviously in control of the ball Joe Senkalski, of KB United, outpaces Steven Goble, of Norwich City, in the match at the International Sports Centre recently.
(PIC: Newcastle Herald)

PHILIPS LEAGUE POINTS SCORE

	W	D	L	Pts
Marconi Fairfield.	6	3	2	18
Sydney City	7	—	4	15
Adelaide City	6	2	3	14
A.P.I.A. Leichhardt	6	2	3	14
West Adelaide.	5	2	4	13
Brisbane City	5	2	4	13
Newcastle United	5	2	3	12
Canberra City	4	4	3	12
Heidelberg United	4	3	4	11
Sydney Olympic	5	—	6	10
Footscray	4	1	6	9
Brisbane Lions	4	—	7	8
South Melbourne.	3	1	6	7
St. George	2	—	9	4

THE ALMIGHTY DOLLAR

Fort Lauderdale coach, Ron Newman, called the U.S. "the land of opportunity"; Italian International, Gianni Rivera called it an "Elephant's graveyard". America is a strange place. Like its soccer it evokes many different responses. Whatever the response from players and coaches the rise of soccer in America has major soccer countries worried sick.

The power of the American dollar has already put pressure on other soccer countries by luring star players into the North American Soccer League. Admittedly the migration takes place mainly in the European off-season. Trevor Francis, for example, netted over fifty thousand dollars for just over three month's football. That was before his £1,000,000 transfer from Birmingham to Nottingham Forest.

It seems inevitable that players at the peak of their careers will eventually be leaving their British and continental clubs to accept permanent and lucrative contracts rather than taking fill-in spells.

Former Chelsea star, Eddie McCreadie, now coach of the Memphis Rogues, had this to say on the subject, "Before long a representative of an American club will be turning up at Chelsea with a fistful of dollars saying, 'Let's

have Ray Wilkins'. And there won't be anything anyone can do about it."

The success of the N.A.S.L. has attracted big sponsorships. The Philadelphia Furries, owned by rock stars Mick Jagger, Peter Frampton and Rick Wakeman, could afford to spend four million dollars on team building. The New England Tea Men manager, Noel Cantwell, received an offer he "couldn't refuse."

New York Cosmos are the big guns of the league. They have been attracting an average of 48,000 spectators to their home games. Their owner is the colossal Warner Communications Corporation. To that body money seems to be no object.

The average attendance for the N.A.S.L. last season was 14,670. That is a figure which would delight the directors of the Philips Soccer League.

The National Soccer League has come a long way since its inception in 1967. Before too long it could be the springboard for the realisation of another American dream — a place in the World Cup Finals. That dream could be realised in 1982. It's what could come after it that has soccer administrators the world over scratching their heads.

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